Manchester, N.J. June 10th 1845

My Dear Friend!

I have omitted writing to you for a long time because I supposed you had a sufficient supply of Correspondents and other labours to occupy all your time. But I wish to make some inquiries and make some requests I have for once ventured to trouble you with a letter. + I suppose that Dr Torrey has told you that last season in July I visited a few of your old localities such as Quakerbridge — Atsion Wading River Cedar Bridge &c &c — That I obtained a good supply of Scleria laxa from the latter place Croton sp -ois linearis from Atsion and Rhexia Mariana at Bridgeport or Bridgeton, where the Wading River empties into another (the place is perhaps better known by the name of Millian or Jimmy McKane's) Here I made an unsuccessful search for Vilfa compressa where I understood you had found it in abundance I searched both above and below the Bridge among some cedars on the East side of the Road below the Bridge and also on those little Islets in the marsh where it was scarcely safe to plants one's foot — Will you be so good as to inform more particularly of the whereabouts the locality is for I may visit this region again — At the upper Wading River Bridge I found nothing of interest —

except the large form of Rhynchospora Torreyana and a great abundance of my Rhynchospora Greyana (By the bye has the latter ever been published and if so where?) Between Martha Furnace also and Cedar Bridge I obtained a good supply of Rhynchospora Torreyana both large & small varieties — Rhynchospora Greyana fine and abundant and always either where iron ore had been dug or landed or where it existed in situ — The Oakesia (Eupatorium) Conradii locality has been cut off & coaled and will perhaps nearly or quite eradicate that interesting plant — But I have found it three miles South on the road to McCarty's Ville and also 5 miles South of the same place (Cedar Bridge) on the road to Menahawkin — There is something singular in the appearance and disappearance of Carex Baratii which may account for the plant living so long overlooked by botanists. It is this the first year I was here I collected about 50 specimens nearly all I met with Last season I could have collected 10000 specimens and in places too where I had not before observed but which I had often visited and passed over — This season I have not found a single good specimen fit for collection yet the number of flowerless plants of this species does not appear to be at all diminished

What has become of our friend Oakes I have not heard from him for some time, he has not answered one or two of my last letters. I am under many obligations to him and will not soon forget his kindness — Give my kind regards to our friend Buckermann — —

Have you any Botanical Pamphlets to spare & to give away? I would much like a copy of the correspondence of Cadwallader Colden — One of your Tour to the Mountains in North Carolina &c &c and anything else new or otherwise interesting. A copy of your (new Edition of the Botanical Text-Book — For which I will collect you any plants seeds &c &c that you may desire. — The fires in the Pines this season have been exceedingly destructive to vegetation having passed over thousands & thousands of acres and destroyed every thing on the surface — The frost too has been very severe and the great drought is also very sensibly apparent in the stinted forms of vegitable productions at this time; Please write or send anything you may have for me before the first of July & Please remember too that anything written on pamphlet subjects is 1¢ letter postage. — Believe me truly yours

P. S. Buckermann

Prof. A. Gray.

Manchester N.J.
June 16th

Free.

P. D. Knickerbocker
Post Master

Prof. A. Gray.
Cambridge.
Mass.